

REMARKS

This application was filed on 2 June 1998 with ten claims, two of which were written in independent form. An amendment broadening the independent claims, Claim 1 and 6, was filed on 4 October 2000 and has been entered. Additional responses to final and non-final rejections were filed on 19 March 2001, 4 September 2001, 18 February 2002, 18 December 2002, 2 June 2003, 11 April 2004, and 12 August 2004 without amending any claims. Appeal Briefs were filed on 3 June 2002, 4 August 2003, and 15 November 2004.

The amendment to the title of the invention is intended to better describe the breadth of the claimed invention.

In view of the amendments and the remarks presented herewith, it is believed that the claims currently in the application accord with the requirements of 35 U.S.C. § 112 and are allowable over the prior art of record. Therefore, it is urged that the pending claims are in condition for allowance. Reconsideration of the present application is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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